

REMARKS

Claims 1-47 were submitted for examination. In response to a Restriction Requirement dated 2/10/2005, the Applicant elected without traverse Claims 1-28 for examination and submitted that Claims 1-5, 7-10 and 16-25 read on the species of FIG. 4D. Accordingly, in this Office Action, Claim 1-5, 7-10 and 16-25 are examined and rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Mizoguchi et al (US Patent No.: 5,583,474, hereinafter "Mizoguchi"), or in view of Redilla (US Patent No.: 6,420,952, hereinafter "Redilla").

The Examiner is appreciated for the thoughtful review and comments in the Office Action. In the foregoing amendments, Claims 2 and 30 are cancelled and Claims 1, 16 and 29 are amended to further distinguish from the cited references, where Claim 29 is labeled as *Withdrawn-currently amended* (permitted under *Acceptance of Certain Non-Compliant Amendments Under 37 CFR 1.121(c)* dated 06/06/2005). Reconsideration of Claims 1-5, 7-10 and 16-25 is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

As amended, Claim 1 now recites:

a plurality of conducting stripes formed closely to each other in silicon, each two adjacent stripes of the conducting stripes forming one of the N transformers; a grounding stripe deposited between two adjacent transforms of the N transformers to shield cross-coupling between the two adjacent transforms; and wherein none of the conducting stripes are electrically connected and N is a finite integer greater than or equal to 2.

As one embodiment of the claimed invention, FIG. 4D clearly shows that a grounding stripe deposited between two adjacent transforms (i.e., transformer A 1-2-3-4 and transformer B 5-6-7-8). In other words, with the recited feature "a grounding stripe deposited between two adjacent transforms", two transformers A and B will not interfere each other by the magnetic coupling because of the grounding stripe.

In contrast, Mizoguchi teaches thoroughly how to design transformers using planar winding of conductors, see FIGs. 49-50 as two examples in Mizoguchi. To avoid magnetic coupling between inductors/transforms, Mizoguchi shows specifically how to

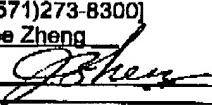
isolate layers of planar winding of conductors. In FIG. 7, there are two layers 40A and 40B of planar winding of conductors, a number of planar isolating layers 20A, 20B, 20C and 20D are used to isolate the two layers 40A and 40B. Evidently, Mizoguchi neither teaches nor suggests a grounding stripe to be deposited between two adjacent transforms. In fact, Mizoguchi just teaches the opposite by using the planar isolating layers. There is no any teaching in Mizoguchi that a grounding stripe is used for insulation between inductors or transformers.

To further distinguish from the cited references, claim 16, depending on claim 1 is amended to recite that "... a plurality of several layers that are stacked on top of each other without any insulating layers in between to increase magnetic coupling between the layers". The amended claim 16 is clearly contrary to Mizoguchi.

It is axiomatic that an invention in a patent application is defined by, and must be examined with respect to, the specific language of the claims. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the once-amended Claim 1 shall be allowable over the cited references, viewed either alone or in combination. Reconsideration of claims Claim 1-5, 7-10 and 16-25 is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that Claims Claim 1-5, 7-10 and 16-25 shall be in condition for allowance over the cited references. Should a generic claim (i.e., Claim 1) is allowed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the corresponding method claim started with claim 29 that has also been amended. Early and favorable action is being respectfully solicited.

If there are any issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplementary Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (408)777-8873

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Respectfully submitted;


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